

Families and friends

Hopefully the snow melts and spring comes soon

By MARTHA WENNING

Hello everyone — I hope all are enjoying the sunshine. Hopefully a lot of the snow melts and spring thinks about showing up. I think we all want warmer weather. I am thankful that we didn't get as much snow as expected and we kept power the whole time.

The Feel Better List follows. When you have time, please send a prayer or positive thought to those that are listed. If you know someone that is ill and not listed, please think of them also. Thank you.

Linda Brown; Linda Combs; Cassel Boggs; Opal Boggs; Bob Gatton; Donald Banks; Midge Banks; Sherrie Brown; Mindy Dreffer; Freda Gross; Rebecca Hene-myre; Kelsey Day; Kenny Harvery; Sue Harvey; Betty Hamilton; Joyce Thomas; Robert Sword; Ron Lester; Barry Miles; Connie Halcomb Sams; Rose Ballard; Brian Baker; Roger Sturgill; Noah Blair; Johnny Napier; Bob Fisher; Ruby Adams; Terry Adams; Robert S. Caudill; Mike Harris; Betty Palmer; Freida Johnson; Bob Hall; Michael Combs; Lorainne Stewart; Jo Ann Baker; Stephanie Brashiears; Kae Fisher; Crystal Meade; Herbie Adams; Myles Marr; Kevin Day; Jim Caudill; Doris Ison; Valene Small; Freddy Eversole; those in the nursing homes and hospitals; the shut-ins; and the caregivers.

CAT had a vet appointment this past week. This is never a fun experience for CAT or us but it's interesting. CAT didn't want to go into the carrier and complained all the way to the vet. The carrier was in my lap, so he wasn't alone. He complained when we got there until he finally fell asleep. He was wary when he and his carrier were taken to the back room. At one point, I asked the receptionist if that was CAT we were hearing, she said yes. We could hear him complaining throughout the clinic.

If you have ever watched a nature documentary and heard a wild cat (mountain lion) — loud and vicious — then you know what we heard. I didn't know CAT could make that sound as it sounded like a wild animal. When CAT was brought back out I mentioned the sound and, yes, it had been CAT. I said it wasn't a domesticated sound.

Apparently, CAT didn't want his nails trimmed (and I had requested it). He didn't want his stomach poked by the vet so that didn't happen, and

he didn't want his teeth looked at. There was something mentioned about a collar being put on him for the dental exam but it didn't work.

He also wasn't happy when the flea medicine was applied (this is why they did that and not us). CAT hissed and snarled at everyone. At least he did get his shots. CAT was quieter on the way home but he still complained. Our main concern was his weight and it stayed about the same, which is good.

We'll be doing this again next February and I doubt it'll be any easier. There's nothing like an unhappy CAT.

Cowan

Aunt Susan Stamper of Little Cowan invited John, Mike and me over for Sunday morning breakfast. It was delicious. We were all stuffed from that meal — biscuits and sausage gravy, jam and jelly, cooked apples, scrambled eggs, and potatoes. So much food and it was delicious. Thank you, Aunt Susan.

Karen Day of Cowan is sending Happy Birthday wishes to her great-nephew Evan Butler. His birthday is on Valentine's Day, February 14.

Hannah Harrison of Erlanger sent in a beautiful tribute to her papaw, Robert Gibson Caudill of Little Cowan, for his upcoming birthday.

Robert "Bob" G. Caudill will celebrate his 95th birthday on February 18. Born in 1931, he is the son of the late Beulah and Cassel Caudill. Over his 95 years, Bob has enjoyed many of life's simple pleasures — swinging in the trees as a young boy, fishing, and savoring a bowl of cornbread and milk.

As a young man, Bob enlisted during the Kore-



Bob Caudill of Little Cowan will celebrate his 95th birthday on February 18.

an War. Wanting to see the world, he volunteered to go wherever he was needed and was stationed in Texas, Illinois, Wyoming, California and Korea. In 1958, he married his late wife of 63 years, Ramona. Together, they raised two children, Robert and Laura. Through the years, Bob has been blessed to be known as "Papaw" to five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Of all the memories from his long and full life, Bob says his favorite is the night he was saved — a Thursday evening he calls "the greatest experience I ever had". He recalls believing he had died as he saw heaven, a sight so wonderful that in his words, "you couldn't be alive to see it". The very next day, he shared the good news with an old acquaintance at a local restaurant, where the two ended up having church right there at the table. It is an experience he hopes everyone will one day know.

Bob, Robert G., Dad, Brother, Uncle Bobby, Papaw – Happy 95th birthday. You are deeply loved. Patsy Adams worked

with Elizabeth Barret at the Appalshop for almost 30 years. She was an amazing filmmaker and always a joy to work with. Patsy wants to send comforting prayers to Herby, Evan, Ada and their families on the loss of Elizabeth Barret.

Valentine's Day is fast approaching and if you need a last-minute gift, consider gifting a Letcher County Homemakers Cookbook. They are available at the Letcher County Extension Office and are \$15.

Valentine Day Wishes are here to share. Thank you to those who responded and submitted requests. I plan to do this again next year.

Happy Valentine's Day to Mike. Love, Marty
Happy Valentine's Day to John and Sherie from Marty and Mike.

Happy Valentine's Day to Susie and Tony from Marty and Mike.

Happy Valentine's Day to Greg and Erica from Mom and Dad.

Happy Valentine's Day to Mark and Heather from Mom and Dad.

Happy Valentine's Day to Brad and Becky from Mom and Dad.

Happy Valentine's Day to Erica and Hank. Love Greg.

Happy Valentine's Day to Mom from Greg.

Happy Valentine's Day to Tony. Love, Susie.

Happy Valentine's Day to Curtis and Jaimie from Mom.

Happy Valentine's Day to Kaylin and Easton from Gigi.

Happy Valentine's Day to Mike Watts! Roses are red. Violets are blue. Candy is sweet and so are you! I love you. Love Donna.

I hope all have a lovely Valentine's Day.

Tina Dee Mercer of Indianapolis, Indiana passed away February 2,

2026, at the age of 75. She was preceded in death by her husband, David Wayne Mercer; her mother, Mildred Wilson Elliot; her father, Hugh Wilson; her mother-in-law, Marie Mercer Yonts; her father-in-law, David Mercer; and granddaughter, Reagan Michelle Wolfe.

Tina is survived by her sister Teresa (Dwight) Smith; her daughters Natalie Mercer Wolfe and Jessica (Brent) Gray. She leaves behind her grandchildren: Samantha Wolfe, Nathaniel Wolfe, Harrison Wolfe, Grayson Fletcher and Gavin Gray.

The service was held February 9, 2026 at Flannery Buchanan-Washington Park East, Indianapolis, Indiana. Burial followed at Washington

Park East, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Condolences are sent to Anna Yonts and family members.

There are two quotes for this week. The first one is tributed to Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "Loving is not just looking at each other, it's looking in the same direction."

The second quote is attributed to Vincent Van Gogh: "Love is something eternal; the aspect may change, but not the essence."

If you have any news or photos or birthdays to share, please email CowanNews@aol.com. Thank you.

Have a wonderful week and enjoy the warmer days. Be kind to all you meet.

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ACCEPTING BIDS
Letcher County Water & Sewer District
(606) 633-8550

Will be accepting sealed bids for the following surplus equipment until Friday the 20th of February @ 9am.

- 2011 Ford Ranger
- 2008 Ford F-150
- 1999 Jeep Cherokee

These vehicles are available for viewing between 9am and 3pm M-F at the district office
3443 US 119
Mayking KY 41837

The water district reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

5	6	1	2	7	4	9	8	3
4	9	8	6	5	3	1	2	7
7	3	2	8	9	1	6	4	5
2	5	6	7	8	9	3	1	4
3	7	4	1	2	5	8	9	6
8	1	9	3	4	6	5	7	2
9	2	7	5	3	8	4	6	1
6	8	3	4	1	7	2	5	9
1	4	5	9	6	2	7	3	8

Weekly SUDOKU

		1		7	4		8	3
4	9	8		6	5		1	2
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

SUMMARY OF PROCEDURES AND FINDINGS

AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES OF THE
LETCHER COUNTY CLERK

For The Period January 1, 2024 Through December 31, 2024

The Letcher County Clerk applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an Agreed-Upon Procedures (AUP) engagement for calendar year 2024 in accordance with KRS 43.070(1)(c). AUP reports present the procedures performed and the results of those procedures, called findings. The summary below presents those findings for which an exception (an instance of noncompliance with the criteria) was identified during the AUP engagement.

During the AUP engagement of the Letcher County Clerk, the following exceptions were noted:

- The Letcher County Clerk's excess fees were not remitted by March 15, 2025.
- Excess fees due to the fiscal court were recalculated and there are \$5,506 of excess fees due to the fiscal court.

Findings related to procedures for which there were no exceptions identified, and official responses to exceptions are not included in the summary above but can be found in the full report. A copy of this report is available on the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at auditor.ky.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Ball

Allison Ball
Auditor of Public Accounts
Frankfort, KY

September 19, 2025

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